



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AG/1648
Efw

Inventor Patent Application of

MAERTENS, et al.

Atty. Ref.: 2551-106

Serial No. 09/851,138

Group: 1648

Filed: May 9, 2001

Examiner: Li

For: SEQUENCES OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS GENOTYPES
AND THEIR USE AS PROPHYLACTIC, THERAPEUTIC
AND DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 2, 2004

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Consideration of the attached and return of an initialed copy of the attached PTO 1449 Form, pursuant to MPEP § 609, are requested.

The Certification required by Rule 97(e) for consideration of the attached can not be made. The attached documents were cited in an Opposition in a copending related foreign application more than three months ago.

The Examiner is requested however to use her discretion and consider the attached and make the same of record by returning an initialed copy of the attached PTO 1449 Form.

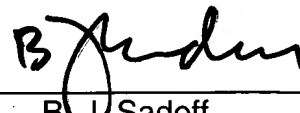
The applicants presently believe the attached documents are no more material than references already of record. The attached references appear to relate to HCV-1,

a genotype 1a isolate. The applicants believe the HCV-1 sequence(s) are included in the sequence alignments of the present application (see, for example, the Figures).

Return of an initialed copy of the attached PTO 1449 Form is requested. At a minimum, the Examiner is requested to place the attached in the above-identified file.

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



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